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Cuba

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Big Infiltration by CIA Is Charged by Castro

'Thousands' of Weapons, 'Hundreds' Of Agents in Cuba, Dictator Asserts

By WILLIAM FRYE
Special to The Star

SANTIAGO, Cuba, July 27.—Fidel Castro charges that the CIA has infiltrated "thousands" of weapons and "hundreds" of agents into Cuba in recent months.

His statement in a rambling four-hour reply to the OAS vote for sanctions against Cuba yesterday, was the first indication of the order of magnitude of Cuban underground activity.

If the figures are taken at face value, Mr. Castro has a more serious revolution on his hands than the world has been led to believe. It could go far to explain his recent overtures to the United States.

Comparative Figures

The speech struck many United States observers as the response of a man who feels himself cornered.

Mr. Castro repeated that he wanted a renewal of relations with the United States and said Cuba would reciprocate good will by ending subversion in the hemisphere.

Denounces Sanctions

In virtually the next breath, however, he called President Johnson a "gorilla President," threatened that the Cuban militia might "fire back" at Marines in Guantanamo, and issued a new call for revolutions throughout Latin America.

He called the Organization of American States action imposing diplomatic and economic sanctions against Cuba "garbage."

Speaking on the 11th anniversary of his 26th of July revolutionary movement, the Prime Minister told 150,000 cheering persons at Oriente University the OAS has no right to judge Cuba. The sanctions are "impudent and unjust," he said.

"If the pirate attacks made from the United States and countries of the Caribbean do not cease . . . the people of Cuba consider themselves with equal right to help . . . the revolutionary movements of other countries," Mr. Castro said in a "Declaration of Santiago de Cuba."

The speech struck many United States observers as the response of a man who feels himself cornered.

He acknowledged that the Cuban people face five more years of austerity, though he refused to attribute it to his economic problems to what he called the United States "blockade." He said it was because Fulgencio Batista left Cuba in poverty.

Even if his figures on infiltration of men and weapons are divided in half, observers pointed out, the resulting force, if still at large, would be bigger than the one with which Mr. Castro began his revolution 11 years ago.

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However, he has some 300,000
soldiers and militia under arms.
He also has the support of
Russia.

Mr. Castro expanded and reinterpreted the offer he made three weeks ago to cease subversion if the United States would call off its aid to Cuban

He said he envisaged a rule of law in which no country would interfere in the internal affairs of another.

Short of such a system, he said "help to revolutions is not negotiable."

The net effect appeared to be to uppl back somewhat from his earlier offer but not to withdraw it.

Tone Veers Often

The speech was full of switches from pacific gesture to verbal thunderbolt and back again.

Attacking the OAS as "garbage," Mr. Castro said that Cuba rejects as "'insolent" the OAS warning that if the Castro regime persists in carrying out acts of aggression and intervention against one or more OAS members, they may, singly or as a group, use armed force against Cuba.

The Prime Minister also warned of the possibility of a "serious incident" at the United States Naval Base at Guantánamo. "If they hit us hard, we will be forced to give our men the order t hit back hardest," he said.

"We will win! We will win!
We will win!" the crowd chanted.

"From the Guantanamo base Cuban territory, occupied by United States Marines, there have been thousands of provocations against our people. . . even a soldier killed," Mr. Castro asserted.

The United States previously denied Mr. Castro's accusations that Marines killed a Cuban sentry two weeks ago.